

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed March 28, 2006 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 5-10 are pending in this application, with claim 5 being the only independent claim. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

Claim 5 is amended to recite “said passive cell having an electrically conductive transparent layer electrically connected to a predetermined potential such that said passive cell prevents electromagnetic interference generated by said display from radiating therethrough and simultaneously shields said display from external interference”. Support for this limitation is found at page 2, lines 11-20, of the English translation of the original specification.

New claim 10 recites “said electrically conductive transparent layer of said passive cell comprise electrodes of said passive cell”. Support for this limitation is found in Fig. 2 which shows the electrical conductive layers 18, 19 on either side of the liquid crystal substance 20, similarly to the electrodes 12, 13 of the active cell. If a control voltage were applied to the electrical conductive layers 18, 19 in that embodiment, the control voltage would drive liquid crystal substance 20.

Rejection of Claims over Prior Art

Claims 5, 6, and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,317,178 (Brandt).

Claim 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Brandt.

Brandt discloses a DSTN device having an active cell and a passive cell. However, Brandt discloses that the passive cell is solely a compensator for undesirable color effect (see col. 4,

lines 10-11; and; col. 5, lines 25-27). In Brandt, a heating device 20 is arranged in the passive cell to avoid exerting any disturbing influences on the electric device (col. 4, lines 15-18). Fig. 4 of Brandt discloses an example of a heating device 9 which includes elongated segments 35 arranged between strips 34 of an electrode. Brandt does not specifically disclose a separate description of the heating device 19. Although the heating device 9, 19 of the passive cell shown in Fig. 4 in Brandt may be energized, there is no teaching or suggestion that the segments 35 of the heating device prevent radiation from escaping the display device or prevents external interference, as is now expressly recited in independent claim 1.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, independent claim 1 is not anticipated by Brandt.

Furthermore, since Brandt relates to a heating device for a cell and does not teach or suggest anything about electrical disturbances, the present invention is also not obvious over Brandt.

Dependent claims 6-10, each being dependent on and including all the limitations of independent claim 5, are allowable for at least the same reasons as is independent claim 5, as well as for the additional recitations contained therein.

Dependent claim 10 recites that “said electrically conductive transparent layer of said passive cell comprise electrodes of said passive cell”. Brandt discloses that the heating device 9, 19 is in addition to the electrode 34 (see Fig. 4; and col. 6, lines 6-18). Accordingly, dependent claim 10 should be allowable for at least these additional reasons.

The application is now deemed to be in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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